



State of Tennessee

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 389

By Representatives Lollar, Coley

and

Senators Kyle, Overbey, Gresham, Marrero, Ford

A RESOLUTION commemorating the history of Flag Day.

WHEREAS, believed to have been first celebrated in Fredonia, Wisconsin, on June 14, 1885, the holiday which celebrates the American flag has a long and storied history; and

WHEREAS, Flag Day was originally conceived by B. J. Cigrand, a schoolteacher in Fredonia who extolled the pupils of the District Six Public School to celebrate June 14, 1885, the 108th anniversary of the official adoption of the Stars and Stripes, as a day recognizing the flag's birthday; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cigrand remained an enthusiastic advocate of the observance of June 14th of each year in commemoration of the American flag throughout the remainder of his years, often using newspaper and magazine articles and public addresses to extol his ideas; and

WHEREAS, Flag Day was celebrated in New York for the first time on June 14, 1889, in Philadelphia on June 14, 1891, and, one year later, was celebrated by the New York Society of the Sons of Revolution; and

WHEREAS, it was in 1893 that the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames, following the suggestion of Colonel J. Granville Leach, historian of the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the Revolution, formally requested that the mayor of Philadelphia and all private citizens display the flag on June 14; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the resolution, Dr. Edward Brooks, the Superintendent of Public Schools of Philadelphia, directed that Flag Day ceremonies be held on June 14, 1893, in Independence Square; and

WHEREAS, support for the recognition of June 14th as Flag Day continued to grow, and the American Flag Day Association, which drew upon the energies of its leaders, B. J. Cigrand and Leroy Van Horn, was organized for the purpose of promoting Flag Day celebrations; and

WHEREAS, in 1894, Flag Day celebrations were held by the public school children of Chicago, with more than 300,000 children participating in Flag Day exercises in five of the city's parks; and

WHEREAS, after three decades and a groundswell of support throughout the country, Flag Day was officially established by a proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30, 1916, and, on August 3, 1949, President Harry Truman signed an act of Congress which designated June 14th of each year as National Flag Day; and

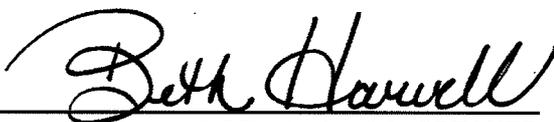
WHEREAS, it is wholly fitting that this body formally recognize the importance of Flag Day and its role in the history of these United States; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join with members of the Memphis/Shelby County Daughters of the American Revolution as they celebrate Flag Day, reflecting on the important role played by our flag in the course of this nation's history and encouraging all Tennesseans to join in the celebration of this auspicious day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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ADOPTED: MAY 12, 2011

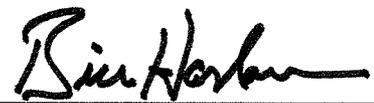


BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 18th day of May 2011


BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR